POL 14 VIET S

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ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 UPW-01 AID-28 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04
NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 RSR-01 /133 W
005516

O R 311143Z AUG 70 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5277
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 14162

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

KATHMANDU FOR AMBASSADOR BUNKER

SUBJECT: UPPER HOUSE ELECTION RETURNS

REFS: A. SAIGON 14132
B. SAIGON 14140 POL 14 VIET S.

1. AS OF 6:00 P. M. AUGUST 31 LOCAL TIME WITH 47 OF 50 AREAS REPORTING, CO HAS SLIGHT EDGE OVER MAU, 1,070,000 TO 1,050,000. HUYEN NOW ENJOYS SIZEABLE LEAD OVER LE FOR THIRD PLACE, 958,000 TO 766,000.

2. WISH EMPHASIZE THAT THESE RETURNS ARE PRELIMINARY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FIGURES OBTAINED UNOFFICIALLY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED OUTSIDE USG. GVN TAKING POSITION THAT ONLY CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL, ESTABLISHED BY UPPER HOUSE ELECTTION LAW AND CHAIRED BY SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT, CAN RELEASE OFFICIAL RETURNS. COUNCIL SOURCE SAYS UNLIKELY THIS BODY WILL RELEASE ANY RETURNS TODAY, BUT MAY DO SO SEPTEMBER 1. CHIEF OF INFORMATION BUREAU AT SUPREME

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Dzenbenz DATE 1/22/82
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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COURT, WHERE COUNCIL SITS, TOLD EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEE THAT COUNCIL WILL CHECK REPORTS THOROUGHLY BEFORE RELEASING RETURNS TO PREVENT KIND OF PROTESTS THAT AROSE IN 1967 AFTER REVERSAL OF SOME PRELIMINARY RETURNS.

3. MEANWHILE, VIETNAMESE RADIO HAS BEEN ANNOUNCING PARTIAL UNOFFICIAL RETURNS WHICH SEEM CONSISTENT WITH FIGURES WE HAVE OBTAINED BUT ARE MUCH LESS COMPLETE.
BERGER

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